AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A prosthesis for a human patient comprising allograft or xenograft tissue having a polypeptide growth factor associated therewith by a biologic adhesive, antibody-antigen associations, specific binding protein-receptor associations or enzyme substrate associations, said polypeptide growth factor being effective to stimulate the affiliation of viable cells with said tissue.

Claim 2 (Original): The prosthesis of claim 1 wherein said binding of said polypeptide growth factor to said tissue involves specific binding interactions.

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Original): The prosthesis of claim 1 wherein said binding of said polypeptide growth factor to said tissue involves a linker molecule.

Claim 5 (Original): The prosthesis of claim 1 wherein said tissue comprises crosslinked tissue.

Claim 6 (Original): The prosthesis of claim 1 wherein said tissue comprises uncrosslinked tissue.

Claim 7 (Original): The prosthesis of claim 1 wherein said tissue comprises a porcine heart valve.

Claim 8 (Original): The prosthesis of claim 1 wherein said tissue comprises bovine pericardial tissue.

Claim 9 (Original): The prosthesis of claim 1 wherein said polypeptide growth factor comprises vascular endothelial growth factor.

Claim 10 (Original): The prosthesis of claim 9 wherein said vascular endothelial growth factor comprises a protein selected from the group consisting of bVEGF164, bVEGF120, hVEGF165, hVEGF121, VEGF II, hVEGF80, VEGF-B, VEGF2, modified active forms thereof, and combinations thereof.

Claim 11 (Original): The prosthesis of claim 1 wherein said tissue comprises synthetic tissue.

Claims 12-13 (Cancelled)

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A prosthetic heart valve comprising a substrate with associated VEGF, wherein said VEGF is associated with the substrate by direct attachment, a biologic adhesive, ~~covalent bonding using crosslinking agents,~~ antibody-

antigen associations, specific binding protein-receptor associations or enzyme-substrate associations, the prosthesis having a valve structure, said polypeptide growth factors being effective to stimulate the affiliation of viable cells with said substrate.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The prosthetic heart valve of claim 14 wherein said prosthetic heart valve comprises a porcine heart valve.

Claims 16-20 (Cancelled)

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The prosthetic heart valve of claim 14 wherein the substrate comprises tissue.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The prosthetic heart valve of claim 21 wherein said tissue comprises uncrosslinked tissue.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The prosthetic heart valve of claim 21 wherein said tissue comprises crosslinked tissue.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The prosthetic heart valve of claim 14 wherein the substrate comprises a synthetic polymer.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A prosthesis comprising crosslinked natural tissue having an exogenous polypeptide growth factor associated therewith.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The prosthesis of claim 25 wherein said polypeptide growth factor comprises vascular endothelial growth factor.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The prosthesis of claim 25 wherein said crosslinked tissue comprises a crosslinked heart valve.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The prosthesis of claim 25 wherein said crosslinking involves glutaraldehyde moieties.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A prosthesis for a human patient comprising allograft or xenograft tissue having a polypeptide growth factor associated therewith by a biologic adhesive, ~~covalent bonding using crosslinking agents comprising reactive functional groups,~~ antibody-antigen associations, specific binding protein-receptor associations or enzyme substrate associations, said polypeptide growth factors being effective to stimulate the affiliation of viable cells with said tissue.